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Laurentian U climbs three spots in MacLean's rankings



Photo by V.A. Stranges

Part of Laurentian University campus, as seen from the roof of the Parker building.

BY ED VEILLEUX

If Laurentian University had an early Christmas wishlist, there's no doubt it can cross off one of its early wishes, having climbed three spots on MacLean's national university ranking system for a second consecutive year.

The school climbed three positions this year and eight positions last year, to bring the university to eleventh overall.

Laurentian University President Dominic Giroux stated there are many reasons for the increase, in a release.

"Laurentian has achieved many milestones this past year," he stated. "Our enrolment has grown to another historic high, we've seen a steady increase in our average entry grade to 81 per

cent, and our students and faculty are being recognized for their achievements internationally. We plan to continue building on the momentum and look forward to climbing further in the upcoming years,"

When asked if the school's increased ranking was accurate, SGA President Charlie Andrews gave a clear "no."

Andrews added, "Campus life hasn't fully improved. In reality, I question whether we truly earned to go up. There are many issues on campus."

Andrews said student life on campus would be more positive if "services like counseling would not have been cut significantly. There would be more resources to help students be more successful

— tutors and more support for international students."

Andrews also said food services is an area that should be looked at in order to improve student life, with an eye towards "quality and fair pricing."

Giroux stated that the school has seen an increase in rank due to its staff and faculty.

"We have made exciting strides in the past two years thanks to our faculty and staff who continue to work towards improving the student experience and who continue to distinguish themselves nationally and internationally."

According to a Laurentian release, another indicator that helped boost Laurentian in the ratings was the average research grant per faculty from the

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). Laurentian moved up three spots to ninth in this area.

"Our research profile is impressive, and growing," stated Patrice Sawyer, Vice-President, Francophone Affairs, Research and Graduate Studies, at Laurentian University. "We ranked #1 in Canada for total sponsored research income among primarily undergraduate universities for the 2nd year in a row and were awarded several new research chair positions including a NSERC Industrial Chair and three new Canada Research Chairs."

For Andrews, however, the

increase has a more obvious reason behind it.

"Everyone is discussing how it has gone up three spots, which is brilliant, but we should also remember that three schools in our category moved up to another category," he said. "If those three schools were still in the primarily (undergrad) category, would we still have gone up the three spots?"

Brock, Ryerson and Wilfrid Laurier University all moved up a category in the rankings.

"The reality is, on this campus, there are a lot of issues and the quality of life has not improved for students," Andrews said. "It hasn't."

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A sober look at the concept of 'legacy'

Barrie campus, school of architecture and administration cuts

It has been a crazy few months out here, tucked away from the rest of Sudbury at Laurentian University.

School administration seems to have an insatiable hunger for expansion.

Plans to expand in Barrie are well underway now that Barrie city council has OK'd funding and the commitment to bring a university to the city.

Closer to home, Laurentian has purchased land in downtown Sudbury to build its school of architecture and plans to get the specialty school up-and-running are in place.

Throwing around the word "legacy" can't be helped when thinking about these events and the last few months, overall.

Whether or not, the administration is thinking of "legacy" projects or just working on their key goals (national recognition, anyone?), it has proven to be an interesting time for the school.

"Legacy" isn't always a positive word, however.

It seems that the outrage from



ED VAILLEUX

administration cuts in the summer are just slowly taking hold now throughout the student population and among professors. I've heard stories from friends and colleagues about professors "denouncing" our university president.

Let's be realistic. Laurentian University President Dominic Giroux doesn't act solely on what he thinks, personally, is best for the university, and even if he wanted to, he would have to pass the decision (in this case, a budget) through the board.

From a student perspective, I'm angry about the cuts. I'm angry that

some services on campus are subpar.

The difficulties experienced when registering for a summer course and then registering to return to university this year were both experiences I'd rather not live through again.

I remember the woman at the front desk laughing at me, after I paid my summer tuition off and told her I wished to register for full-time fall studies (as I had the year before).

"How will you be paying?" she asked.

"I don't exactly have that kind of money sitting in my account," I replied, having just paid \$1,200 for six summer credits.

"Well, you only have a few days left," she said, laughing.

I didn't think it was funny at all that I only had days left to secure funding for school, from my bank (not everyone qualifies for OSAP).

She reassured me that I must have received a letter at some point in the summer, stating when my fees were

due. That was not the case. The letter never made it to me.

Horror stories happen at every institution, I understand that. And, as one bright student leader told me, it's impossible to "quantify" whether or not the administration cuts have hurt the university's services just yet. He's right.

There is this looming feeling lately of discontent. You can hear it at the SGA board meetings, talking to your professors and talking to friends.

Laurentian's national MacLean's ranking might be climbing steadily, but the institution needs to keep its eyes on local issues and the student experience. When you're out there, securing money and shaking hands with all levels of government, remember to continue doing your job for current students.

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Laurentian Remembers

BY MATT RABEY

Remembrance day has been observed since the signing of the armistice that signified the end of the First World War, in 1918. Though, the question is raised of its relevance in contemporary Canadian Society after nearly a hundred years have passed. Yet, now more than ever it is important to express solidarity with those who stand on guard for Canada. Canadians from all backgrounds and ways of life realize the importance of this, including students at Laurentian University.

This past Nov. 11, Lieutenant Lidstone, Corporal Rawlyk, Corporal Nelson, Corporal Smits, Corporal Ray, Corporal Rabey, Private Mejia and Private Casavant, all current students at Laurentian University and Laurentian alumni Second Lieutenant Dodds and Corporal Bellrose were in attendance to show support and honour fellow service members. The solemn day began at the armoury on Riverside Drive where the procession of soldiers, band members and cadets gathered to march in column, with police escort, to the Sudbury Arena. Upon arrival at the arena

the ceremony commenced with veterans, politicians and many others in attendance to pay respects and show their support. After the heartfelt laying of the wreaths, some by family members of soldiers who have recently lost their lives, the procession marched back to the armoury to conclude the event. While here, I spoke with three soldiers who are current members of the Second Battalion The Irish Regiment of Canada and have all known comrades who have been casualties on overseas operations. I asked them, why this day of mourning is relevant today and what it means to them as individuals.

Lieutenant Lidstone has been serving in the Canadian Forces for ten years and is currently in his third year of a major in history. When asked about his thoughts on this day of mourning he replied: "Remembrance Day is the day that the nation stops to recognise the sacrifices that are made by its service men and women. It is even more relevant today as it is no longer limited to those sacrifices made by the veterans of conflicts past. They are given the highest place of honour, but today we can look to the sacrifices of our current serving members and families. The idea of sacrifice, as a result, gains more focus.

We must remember that all service men and women, those who postpone their family's well-being and miss vacations or days off are sacrificing and, of course, all those who lose their lives or are injured make the supreme sacrifice. The families that allow their loved ones to do this, to go into harms way to ensure security and safety for us all, sacrifice. Today, Remembrance Day shows us what sacrifice meant to past Canadians and so what it must mean to us." Upon completion of his degree Mr. Lidstone has intentions to leave the Canadian Reserves to join the Regular Forces in full time service of his country.

Corporal Smits is a graduate student at Laurentian University and is of Métis decent. Proud of her heritage she stated that: "Traditionally, every time Aboriginal peoples gather, we honour our elders, warriors and veterans. I feel that when I am in dress uniform, I want to honour my Métis ancestors, who were ancient combatants. For many years Aboriginal veterans were not treated fairly and respected for the sacrifices they made. This makes it that much more important to honour Aboriginal veterans and to be proud of who I am." Cpl Smits wears a sash around her dress uniform as a symbol of her Native ancestry and as a symbol of Canada's history.

Corporal Rawlyk has been serving for

nine years and was in attendance from Ottawa where she is employed with the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa. A Sudbury native, she is currently enrolled in Envision, the distance-learning program at Laurentian University, majoring in sociology. She had this to say about what Remembrance Day means to her personally: "Before I joined the military Remembrance Day had very little relevance to me until I decided to start serving. The importance of Remembrance Day was not fully realised until my brothers and sisters in arms became casualties of war. People do not seem to realize the amount of sacrifice that serving members of the military make for the rest of us. I personally am a single mother and have had to spend lengthy periods of time away from my four-year-old daughter. This makes me feel a greater level of sympathy for those families who have had to endure the loss of a loved one. It is our duty as Canadians to remember all of those who make these sacrifices for all of us."

As a peace-loving nation it may at times be difficult to reconcile with how this way of life that we enjoy is maintained, but unfortunately that is reality. It is therefore vitally important that we commemorate and honour those who step forward to protect the freedoms that are often taken for granted.

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Photo supplied

Laurentian students serving in the Canadian Forces pose for a photo.

SGA presents annual budget

BY ED VAILLEUX

Nothing surprises Charles Wilson when it comes to working out a budget.

"I've been on the board of a non-profit organization since I was 16," Wilson, the 26-year-old executive administrator of the SGA, said. "I know what a budget looks like and what it should flow like."

With that in mind, Wilson said this year's SGA budget was "a little more difficult" than past budgets he has worked on, due to the fact that he inherited his job from someone who had a "different style" of running things and keeping their books together.

"You have to come from a very strict (way of keeping) records.

That wasn't done to the same degree last year.

Another factor that made working on this year's budget difficult is the SGA not having last year's financial statements complete.

"Usually when planning a budget, it's important to look at what was planned and spent last year," Wilson said. This time, he didn't have that luxury, as last year's financial statements aren't completed and returned to the SGA yet.

The one number Wilson could rely on heading into budget time was the number of students in the SGA this year, due to having a reliable estimate from Laurentian administration. Administration

estimated an SGA population between 5,150 and 5,350 students. The SGA planned the budget around 5,200 students.

Overall, the budget is one of maintenance, with an eye on getting things in order, according to Wilson.

"When you look at this budget you see, more-or-less, a maintenance budget," he said. There's no brand new spending in it. We have a few tweaks and a few budget lines (that have changed)."

Among things the SGA has decided to make a point of supporting are Art Support and recognizing the association's fiftieth anniversary.

Art Support is a program which funds art projects around campus

and for students, in general. For example, the funding could be used to put on a concert at the school or off-campus, for students.

For the SGA's fiftieth, the association plans on putting on various events throughout the year to celebrate the milestone.

Though some budget initiatives are positive, Wilson said there are always areas of the budget that could use more money.

"The sad story of any budget is every single budget line could have a lot more money on it," he said. "You have a certain pool and you have to make the best decisions for the most people."

In terms of revenue, the SGA has gained \$43,300 from last year, totalling \$322,400 from

membership fees. The SGA has a total revenue of \$1,298,954 and its expenditures are \$1,297,500. The budget is a balanced one, with the SGA coming out with a little more than \$1,100 left over.

For Wilson, the budget sets the SGA on the right path, he said.

"I think the budget is a strong step in the right direction," Wilson said. "We have a strong budget. But, at the end of the day, it's also our deeds that will (allow people) to judge us. A budget is just a piece of paper. It reflects our priorities in terms of where we will spend money. But, we have to also realize that we have to provide meaningful services to our students. And, I think we are."

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LU takes next step in Barrie expansion

BY KALLIE BERENS

City councillors in Barrie, Ontario unanimously passed a motion that guarantees \$14 million in funding towards the expansion of Laurentian's Barrie campus downtown.

Laurentian plans to operate on a \$60-million dollar budget for the expansion, which will ideally include a 160,000 sq. ft. downtown building that will include academic facilities, a student centre and a residence. The target student capacity will peak at 3,000, with 140 faculty members, according to Laurentian's website.

The Barrie campus expansion, which Laurentian originally brought to the Barrie city council on Sept. 26 of this year, shares many of the same goals with Laurentian's school of architecture.

A statement released on Laurentian's website stated that the two reasons the school wanted to build in the downtown core were to respond to "community needs" and to make positive "economic impacts."

An economic impact study conducted by the university says that a downtown campus will be beneficial to the community, bringing in \$45 million in profit for downtown businesses and an additional \$2.2 million for the city in transit revenue annually.

Approximately 1,200 Laurentian students are currently enrolled in nine different

degrees at Georgian College through a partnership known as "Laurentian@Georgian."

Laurentian's board of governors has pledged \$14 million towards the project, bringing a total of \$28 million raised - less than half of Laurentian's predicted budget.

However, the university remains optimistic.

The Liberal Party of Ontario had promised in their campaign that they would invest in three new campuses for universities and colleges in the last provincial election.

Barrie's city council and Laurentian President Dominic Giroux have both publicly stated that funding Laurentian's project as one of the three campuses will be beneficial to the province's strategic growth plans.

One of the only major cities in Ontario that does not have a University, Barrie's education rates are lower than the rest of the province - 12 per cent of the Barrie population have been educated at a university level, compared to the provincial average of 21 per cent.

Once funding has been approved and a location in Barrie's downtown core has been picked, Laurentian will begin construction on the building, with a predicted opening for September 2020.

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Laurentian buys property for school of architecture

BY KALLIE BERENS

After months of debate, Laurentian University has purchased the Market Square location downtown from the city of Greater Sudbury to build their new school of Architecture.

On Nov. 9, city councillors held a vote that officially decided the fate of the location. Ten councillors voted in favour of the transaction, with two voting against.

The topic has been subject to a lengthy debate process, specifically over its location. The choice to build on the property along Elm Street and Elgin Street was met with much difficulty - vendors, patrons and supporters of the seasonal Market Square events were not interested in relocating to a potentially smaller, less desirable area.

Despite disapproval of these members in the Sudbury community, Laurentian purchased the property from the city for \$3.3 million dollars.

Laurentian was originally interested in purchasing the entire block of property, but the deal was finalized with 75 parking spots left to the city. This was a main concern to members in the community who originally opposed the idea, because they were worried that the lack of parking would create more problems for the city.

Laurentian's acquired property includes

not only the Market Square building and the area around it, but also a building that is currently being leased out to two businesses, Allstream and Casa Mexicana.

According to a release on Laurentian's website, the downtown location of the school of Architecture will generate an additional \$15 million in economic activity annually.

The city is now working on purchasing the restored Canadian Pacific Rail station on Elgin Street, across from the Sudbury Arena, to accommodate the Market Square vendors during their summer season. Laurentian has confirmed that they will keep the current Market Square building open for vendors during the 2012 season, which runs from May to October annually.

Laurentian's school of architecture is the first new architecture school that has been built in Canada in 40 years. Laurentian will begin to admit students in 2013, and hopes to reach a full capacity of 400 students by 2018.

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EAS holds open mic night

BY LARA GARDNER

English Arts Society members and other poetry enthusiasts are tucked cosily into the games room couches, which have been arranged into a circle to surround Adam Sol. Sol reads poems from his latest book of poetry. There have been two before it, *Jonah's Promise*, which won Mid-List Press's First Series Award for Poetry, and *Crowd of Sounds*, which received the Trilium Award for Poetry.

Sol, a professor of English at Georgian College came to the English Arts Society (EAS) open mic night to share his poetry, and hear the poetry of Laurentian students who also shared the mic. Emmett Turkington, an executive member of the English Arts Society shared some of his poetry, and thoroughly enjoyed hearing Sol's.

"The humor in all of his poetry was such a pleasant, refreshing thing," Emmett

said after the event, "he had serious tones with a light-hearted nature." Mary Fisher, an English Literature student says she noticed "...attention to detail, which made it very visual and realistic in a weird sense."

Sol works skilfully with opposition and contradiction to create a fluidity that keeps the audience alert and engaged in the content. Pairing gladiatorial fights to the death and blogging in the same poem, Sol's poetry is both quirky and relatable.

When Sol was finished, students took their turn to share poetry that they had written, or had read and found to be evocative. "It's good practice," says Emmett, "because I don't think I want to stop any time soon and it's nice to have an audience that isn't your cat." lambda@laurentian.ca

BY KALLIE BERENS

When it comes to the English Arts Society, the name of the club has changed many times, but according to Rebecca Salazar, executive member of the English Arts Society (EAS), it has been around since 1993 and is doing just fine.

Salazar says she is happy with the current state of the club, which has been revamped with a new executive that is willing to stay dedicated for their cause.

"Having a literary arts community in Sudbury, and especially at Laurentian, has allowed me to grow a lot in my writing, and it has given me a few starts."

One start is right at Laurentian, through the literary journal, *Sulphur*.

Established in 2010, the EAS compiles a list of literary works by aspiring writers in the Laurentian community. They are currently calling for submissions

for their second issue, which will be published in early 2012.

On Nov. 14, the EAS held an open mic poetry night. It started out with a poetry reading by Adam Sol, a Trillium award-winning poet and English professor at Laurentian's Barrie campus. Afterwards, students were welcome to share their own poetry in the intimate setting.

Salazar says that the EAS will be planning more events like these in the future.

"In second semester, we will hope to continue the long-running Luminaries reading series by bringing Canadian authors to Sudbury for readings, usually accompanied by Q&A periods."

She also said that the EAS has a goal of hosting at least one event a month, and talked about other events that were organized last year - "Last year, we hosted local author Sean Costello, and Toronto-based poets Jacob Scheier and Rocco de Giacomo."

Salazar, an English major,

articulated her take on the connection between English and the Arts, through literature.

"Any language becomes a sort of medium," she said, "I've gotten to see how this has happened through history, and I've found that literary arts today, especially in Canada, are becoming more and more open to co-operating with other art forms."

The EAS is open to all students - "whether or not someone writes, or simply loves reading, getting to be a part of a literary community allows you to learn a lot - you meet great people, you see writing come alive from the page. Our goal at the EAS is to open that up more to people, and especially to Laurentian students," says Salazar.

For more information on the club, their upcoming events, or the literary journal *Sulphur*, email eas@laurentian.ca. kallie.berens@gmail.com

A day in the life of neuroscience Master's students

BY LARA GARDNER

Mark Collins and Brendan Lehman leave the unoccupied room where we've been talking neuroscience for the past hour, talking about which superhero they would be. Brendan - who also goes by the name Clark - already knows who he'd be. Mark is undecided. Both are - in the broad sense - studying neuroscience at a Master's level. For Mark, it is a Master's in Experimental Psychology, for Brendan, Biology.

Mark came into the program from a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Today, he is sending machines which produce a very specific electromagnetic output through their first round of laboratory testing. He's doing this to discover whether the particular wave pattern - a well-known brainchild of Dr. Persinger - can be validated.

Mark explains that a Master's

in Environmental Psychology is a diverse program, "Experimental looks into some of the more fundamental phenomena behind psychological behaviours; that could be consciousness, perception, and sensation, to name a few." "I think we're really just scratching the surface of what we know about the brain, and the technologies right now are very exciting."

Brendan who approached his study from a biological perspective says that, "It's a different kind of science; I study the biological processes that explain behaviour." Though their approaches are different, they say that working together in the same lab with other students whose fields of study are so diverse is actually beneficial for everyone. It was part of the appeal of studying neuroscience at Laurentian for both Brendan and Mark.

Talk to anyone involved in neuroscience right now and they'll

agree, it's an exciting time to be in the field. There's so much going on, "The split brain theory really caught my attention," says Mark, "The idea that the brain has two consciousnesses with sometimes conflicting wills."

"I like the idea of entanglement, instantaneous communication at a distance" says Brendan. It has profound implications for communications technology, gaming technology, the list goes on. "Imagine being able to text message someone just by thinking about it."

Whether you are directly involved with neuroscience or not, odds are your life will be influenced by the study of the brain and nervous system. The discoveries in this branch of science have direct implications to everything we are as people. Brendan and Mark will be at the forefront of these discoveries.

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Movember not just for men

BY WILLIE POLL

November is the one month a year where the male population can freely grow moustaches without being criticized or nagged at by their girlfriends. It is also the only month where growing a moustache can be for a good cause. Welcome to Movember.

Movember begins on Nov. 1 and ends Dec. 1. It is a time when many males grow moustaches or facial hair to raise funds for prostate cancer. You can register on www.ca.movember.com to win prizes, make donations, and purchase movember

merchandise, with all funds going towards prostate cancer research. It can be difficult for females to participate in the fun, as they have a more difficult time growing moustaches. Catherine Fauvelle, a Laurentian student, is currently changing up movember and leading the way for females to take part in the event. She is taking a stand against prostate cancer while wearing a fake mustache for the entire month of Movember. Within the first week she raised roughly \$100 for prostate cancer, and by the end of the month she hopes to reach her

goal of \$300.

“Women should help too,” Fauvelle said. “My dad could get prostate cancer tomorrow. Just because we don’t have prostates, it doesn’t mean this cancer doesn’t affect us”.

Many Laurentian students are growing moustaches, but not raising money or taking donations for the cause.

“I realized that I could help, a lot of the guys on rez are doing Movember, but not raising the money,” Fauvelle said. “So even though I can’t grow a real moustache (thank

God for that) I can still help.”

Fauvelle said the fake moustache has garnered positive reaction.

“The best thing happened to me today. I was sitting in the food court with my moustache, and an older lady came up and said ‘My husband wants to thank you for wearing that moustache. He has prostate cancer.’ That reminded me why I’m doing this,” Fauvelle said.

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Humour: Movember observations

BY JASON CARMICHAEL

What an exciting month it has been at Laurentian University. Everywhere you look students, faculty, staff and administration are sporting their lip sweaters, their soup strainers, their nose accessories, their porn-staches, their hairy god-mouthers, or in layman’s terms – their moustaches. All in the spirit of Movember, the month dedicated to bring awareness to how full and luscious men can grow moustaches... oh, and awareness for prostate cancer. While some may argue it would be better to bring awareness to prostate cancer by growing something closer to the prostate, all agree that this would be illegal to show in public in most provinces (excluding Quebec).

To do some investigative reporting, this reporter has decided to grow his own moustache this month for the first time in his life and I am here to report that it has been an exhilarating, life changing experience. Beautiful women, who would have never given me the time of day before, stop to talk to me when I go out for walks. “That looks creepy”, “Stay away from my child, you freak” and “Seeing that sets me back weeks of therapy” are just a few of the compliments I have received since growing out my moustache. My moustache itself has taken on a life of its own. I have found myself referring to it in third person, claiming it as a dependent on my tax return and drinking more. I have never been

an alcoholic, but it turns out Harry (my moustache) is!

But this month isn’t just about me, it is about male solidarity in fighting a terrible a disease. Every moustache grown brings us closer to a cure. Every time a man doesn’t shave, he is helping bring about an end to prostate cancer. Sadly, every time a woman doesn’t shave her legs it brings us further away from a cure. Come on women! Do your part. I know it is winter but we really wanted to find a cure by the spring.

I think it speaks to the ingenuity of men that when they decided on what they could do to raise money for charity they didn’t go the traditional routes of bake sales, door-to-door appeals or marathons. They sat down and decided to do something they could do while sitting down. Something they could do, literally, in their sleep. Grow body hair and then neglect to remove that hair they grew. Not only is it the least we could do, it is less than the least since it saves us time in the morning. Even better, it gives us a chance to link something we wanted to do and our significant others would not let us do to a noble cause. It prevents all the wives, girlfriends, and boyfriends (10% fall into this category, according to recent statistics from Will and Grace) who are disgusted by the ‘stache from making their partner shave it off. Because you are either for prostate cancer or against it, and forcing someone to shave off a moustache

this month means you are firmly in the camp of pro-prostate cancer. Along those lines, any male NOT growing a moustache this month is not doing his part to find a cure and once the cure is found they will not be informed until all of the moustache mafia has been treated.

I have been so inspired by the male solidarity I have seen this month (not to be confused with the mail solidarity I saw during the last postal strike) that I have decided that we should take this idea even further and link other things we want to do with noble causes. So, as of this year, December is no more and in its place emerges Pee-cember. During Pee-cember I ask that men everywhere leave the toilet seats up after they urinate to bring awareness to asthma. Every time you hear a big splash of water from the bathroom at 2 am in the morning, followed by a string of invectives that would make a sailor blush, from your (now soaked) girlfriend, you will sleep satisfied knowing that you raised awareness for asthma.

If this works out, you can expect Man-uary to soon follow, in which men will be asked to drink beer and watch hockey to raise awareness for...I dunno...let’s say hang nails. But until then, grow it out long and proud, my brothers (and sisters who forgot to wax theirs).

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Movember in full growth

BY NINA NESSETH

It is evident by the steep decline in clean-shaven faces that Movember is in full-swing. For the month of November, men (also known as Mo Bros) everywhere are banding together to change the face of men’s health, specifically by raising awareness for prostate cancer.

The movement began in Australia five years ago (and yes, “mo” is Australian slang for “moustache”), and has since become a worldwide movement in which men grow moustaches to raise awareness about prostate cancer and funds for research into the disease.

Women are also invited to participate as Mo Sistas, through pledges and donations (though some go a step beyond and participate by not shaving their legs).

“Last year, Movember became a truly global movement,” said Adam Garone, CEO and Co-Founder of Movember. “Through the power of the moustache, almost half a million Movember participants raised \$176 M, making us the largest non-government funder of prostate cancer research in the world.” Last year in Canada, nearly 119,000

Canadian Mo Bros and Mo Sistas got on board to raise \$22.3 M.

Prostate cancer is about as prevalent in men as breast cancer is in women, and it is the most common cancer to affect Canadian men. Fortunately, it is a highly treatable cancer (over 90% of cases are curable if they are detected and treated in their earliest stages); however, on average 11 Canadian men will die of prostate cancer every day because it was not detected early. This is the reason why Movember was founded: to raise awareness and funds for research to promote early detection and treatment.

Support for Movember can be seen throughout Sudbury this year. The Northern Cancer Foundation (NCF) and the Sudbury Regional Hospital invite participants to send in “before” and “after” photos to post to their websites (these photos can be emailed to asampson@hrsrb.on.ca). The Laughing Buddha is hosting its third annual Movember party on Nov. 30th to celebrate the movement with live music and prizes.

For more information about the Movember Movement visit ca.movember.com. nx_neseth@laurentian.ca

International students get a taste of Canadian culture

BY OLIVIE LI

Spending his first Christmas in Canada, alone in his apartment, was not what one student from West Africa had in mind.

The individual (who prefers not to be disclosed) stated that in his country, during Christmas time, over 40 people would gather in his home for celebrations. His first year in Canada was a different story. However, when he was invited to the International Christmas Dinner, he was introduced to warm Canadian families and experienced hospitality for the first time since he left his country.

Since 1986, international students at Laurentian University have been invited to a Canadian Christmas dinner. Last year, over 100 international students, representing 31 different countries, attended the dinner. The event is organized by the Laurentian Christian Fellowship (LCF), a campus club, and other members of the community. Every year, Laurentian students and other volunteers decorate the hall, help serve succulent turkey, baked goods, and organize a program that displays an array of musical performances, Christmas carols, and a Christmas story.

Setso Moswete, a Laurentian student



Photo supplied

Members of Laurentian Christian Fellowship (LCF), who volunteered for the dinner last year, pose with the Poinsettia centre-pieces.

from Botswana, recalls from his first dinner, “I felt at home. I was more than just a student to these people. I loved how such a large group of people

dedicated much of their time and energy into making me happy. They want to know you, find out your traditions, and invite you to their homes so you can share their family

traditions”.

One service offered to international students at the dinner is to arrange visits to Canadian homes for meals and friendship during the Christmas holidays, or sometime in the New Year. Some students are rarely, if ever, invited to a Canadian home during their years of study. This service seeks to change that.

Grace Huang, an international student from Guangdong, China, was invited to a Canadian home last year through the dinner. She shares, “as an international student, being new to Canada, [the dinner] introduced a different Christmas to me. I made a lot of new friends and met a nice local family, and learned more about Canada”.

This year’s dinner will take place on Saturday, Nov. 26th beginning at 6:00 pm at the Glad Tidings Hall on 1101 Regent Street South in Sudbury. A bus will transport international students from the Parker Building at 5:30 pm. The event is free of charge.

For more information, to let us know you’re coming, or to volunteer, email us at ISCDatLU@yahoo.ca.

NaNoWriMo month-long challenge

BY NINA NESSETH

The term “NaNoWriMo” might at first glance appear to be some sort of alien language, but it stands for National Novel Writing Month. During the month of November writers of all levels of experience are challenged to write 50,000 words—starting from scratch on Nov. 1. Participants are not expected to create a fully-formed novel in this time; rather, the month is intended simply to get writers writing, since motivation can often be the biggest hurdle.

“The 50,000-word challenge has a wonderful way of opening up your imagination and unleashing creativity,” says NaNoWriMo founder and Executive Director Chris Baty. “When you write for quantity instead of quality, you end up getting both. Also, it’s a great excuse for not doing any dishes for a month.”

Since its humble beginnings in 1999 with only 21 participants, it has become the largest non-profit

writing challenge in the world. In 2010, NaNoWriMo boasted roughly 200,500 participants and 37,500 winners.

Although the challenge emphasizes fun and creativity over writing the next literary classic, over 90 novels begun during NaNoWriMo have been published, including best-selling novels *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen, and *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern.

For *Wrimos* (NaNoWriMo participants) in the Sudbury area, at least three write-ins are being hosted every week at various locations including Laurentian University, the downtown public library, and Old Rock/Burtello’s (by SRO). Write-ins are an opportunity to meet fellow writers and to provide a supportive writing environment. With activities such as word sprints, where participants race to see who can write the most words in 15 minutes, write-ins encourage everyone to have fun

with their writing.

“If you’re not having fun, you’re doing it wrong,” says municipal liaison Julia Muldoon. “I’m tragically behind for my word count, and loving it! What can I say? I’m a sucker for a win from behind.”

Local NaNoWriMo events have been organized by Muldoon and her co-municipal liaison Sylvie Lafontaine; they also provide support to Sudbury writers through weekly updates and pep talks on the NaNoWriMo forums.

“The best way to get going is to get out and write with other people who are crazy enough to attempt something as insane as NaNoWriMo,” says Lafontaine.

For more information about National Novel Writing Month and about the times and locations for local write-in events, visit the Sudbury forums on www.nanowrimo.org.

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LUL’s Got Talent focuses on music

BY WILLIE POLL

On Nov. 6 and 7 contestants gathered in west residence awaiting their chance to audition for LUL’s Got Talent, which will take place on Nov. 26. The event has been organized by the LUL’s got talent committee, lead by Andrew Rollins and co lead by Danielle Breault.

The majority of the auditions have been musical performances. In previous years the show has included musicians, magicians, comedians, and more. In previous years approximately eight acts were permitted to try out and this year that number has almost doubled.

“Usually we only have enough to fill the show, but this year it’s been crazy,” Danielle Breault, co-head of talent committee, said.

The committee described the situation as a very difficult one in

regards to making cuts from the show.

“All the talent has been unforgettable, we have a very tough decision ahead of us,” Breault said.

The contestants range from new comers, to fourth year veterans, and many of them have been honing their talent for years.

“It’s just what I’ve been doing forever, I love it,” Laura Power, singer/guitarist, said.

The participants are eager to find out the news. However, with some, winning isn’t the most important thing.

“It doesn’t matter what they say, I’m just going to be me, a man with his guitar,” Jordan Lews, guitarist/singer/harmonica player, said.

On Nov. 26 contestants will battle it out for first place at LUL’s Got Talent. williepoll@hotmail.ca

Iain Park is Deadpool



BY ED VEILLEUX

The merc-with-the-mouth is an obvious comparison for the SGA's own 'Park for Party' campaigner Iain Park. Not only are both characters (using the term affectionately) quick-witted and in life for the thrills, but they both have a do-first, ask-questions later approach.

If Park wants to throw an event, he can get it set up in no time. Park might not fire off semi-auto pistols and wreck spinning havoc with sharper-than-death swords (that I know of), but he does fire off tweets at a mile a minute and rocks out on his weekly radio show, spinning tracks.

If Deadpool was a real life hero, Park would be the man to play him. And if Park was a hero (who's to say he already isn't), he'd be the merc for the job -- healing factor, sword ownage and gun-slinging. What's not to like?

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Illustration provided by Marvel Comics

Deadpool might have flip-flopped between good and evil over the years, but his heart has settled in the right place. And, he's always been funny.



Fashion: City Chic



Photo by Lianna Pisani

Bakisha Doté poses in the Brenda Wallace Reading Room.

BY LIANNA PISANI

Fashionista: Bakisha Doté

Spotted: Bakisha admiring the view on a cloudy day in the Brenda Wallace Reading Room

Program: Commerce

Bakisha, a Laurentian student from Montreal, brings neutrals and layers with her to Sudbury like they're her religion (and, this season, they should be).

Incorporating her favourite trend of all-time, oversizing, Bakisha layers an oversized tee with an oversized, patterned knit cardigan. She balances this widened shape by pairing her tops with a fitted skirt (embellished with a gold-toned pattern that harmonizes with that of the cardigan), and keeps a tighter fit on the bottom of her outfit with black tights and tall, black combat boots.

The quirky combination of patterns, and accessories like her

round, chunky earrings, are a throwback to some of the best trends of the early 1990s. The unstructured line pattern on her cardigan expresses this vintage style, while the earrings provide proof that some accessories will always be fashionable. These older trends mesh well with new trends, like combat boots (boot of the season), and add a greater dimension to Bakisha's personal style.

Looking toward style icons such

as Gillian Zinser and Mary-Kate Olsen, it's apparent where Bakisha draws the city chic inspiration. Both girls are known for this somewhat bohemian, somewhat vintage style that shows through in Bakisha's outfit. For similar looks, Bakisha recommends the NASTY GAL online store, and Urban Outfitters.

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Photo by Ron Guillet

Mike Hull sinks a three-point shot in a game against the Brock Badgers on Nov.18.

Voyageurs basketball drop weekend home games

BY RON GUILLET

The Laurentian Voyageurs' basketball team is trying to adapt to life without Manny Pasquale, the Ontario University Athletics top ranked player with 58 points in two games, but dropped both its home games last weekend despite solid efforts.

The Voyageurs took on the Brock Badgers on Friday, Nov. 18, in its home-opener which was an elbow-to-elbow event at the Ben Avery Gymnasium. The Badgers never surpassed a five-point lead in the first half, but the Voyageurs couldn't get the lead as both teams displayed consistency at both ends. George Serresse had the crowd erupt with a well-executed dunk but the Voyageurs couldn't feed of the momentum as the first half ended 36-31 for the Badgers.

The Voyageurs exploded in the second half and displayed an aggressive attack as the Badgers had trouble containing the offensive opportunities. Serresse once again provided the Voyageurs with a spark, this time with a three-point shot that led to a 12-2 run for Laurentian. The Voyageurs outscored the Badgers 32-27 in the third quarter to put the game at 63-63 tie entering the fourth quarter. Laurentian had a three-point lead with seconds remaining in the game but Brock guard Jameson Tipping silenced the crowd after he converted a three-point shot with 2.3 seconds remaining despite defenders pressuring him. The Voyageurs lost some momentum in overtime and the Badgers seemed to feed off its late-game heroics, outscoring Laurentian 18-10 to

win the game 99-91. Isiah Pasquale had 25 points for the Voyageurs while Mike Hull had 23 points.

Voyageurs head coach Shawn Swords was pleased with his team efforts considering the loss of its top player.

"We started making a run at the perfect time and they just hit a big shot with two seconds left," Swords said. "We almost had a steal a couple of times and we had a good defender on him but he hit a tough shot to force the game to overtime. But we played well and we're starting to learn to play without Manny because he's hurt. We had some breakdowns in the first half we have to work on but we came out strong in the second. Everybody gave us some really good minutes tonight but we just couldn't finish

it off."

The Voyageurs took on the McMaster Marauders on Saturday, Nov.19, in its final home game on the weekend. McMaster came out the gate with an aggressive attack and put Laurentian on its heels after a 15-4 run. The Voyageurs rebounded in the second quarter, going on a 9-2 run on two separate occasions to outscore the Marauders 17-12 in the quarter. Laurentian entered the second half behind by five points, but McMaster regained control as they outscored Laurentian 63-39 in the second half to win the game 99-70.

The Voyageurs next home games will be Friday, Dec. 2, and Saturday, Dec. 3.
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Voyageurs season recap

BY RON GUILLET

The Laurentian Voyageurs' soccer team had a slow start to the Ontario University Athletics season, but displayed team chemistry and perseverance as they battled their way to the OUA semi-finals before the Carleton Ravens ended their season.

The Voyageurs finished 6-4-4 and ranked fifth in the East division, but went 5-1-2 in its final eight games, including the two playoff games, to end the season on a high note. The Voyageurs' top scorer was Dieri Drame with eight goals in 12 games, which ranked 10th among the OUA goal leaders.

Voyageurs head coach Carlo Castrechino thought Laurentian improved in areas it struggled with in the past, but acknowledged they must get off to a better start to the season.

"I thought we played better team defence this season and created and scored more goals this year than in the past," Castrechino said. "I want us to carry that on for next season. Our consistency for 90 minutes could be better and get off to a better start to the season."

Castrechino said players such as Matt George, Daniel O'Connor, Brian Kavaratzis, Cameron Brooks and Davor Alisic, among others, will be key contributors next season.

Voyageurs captain James Bond, who will not return next season, was satisfied with his

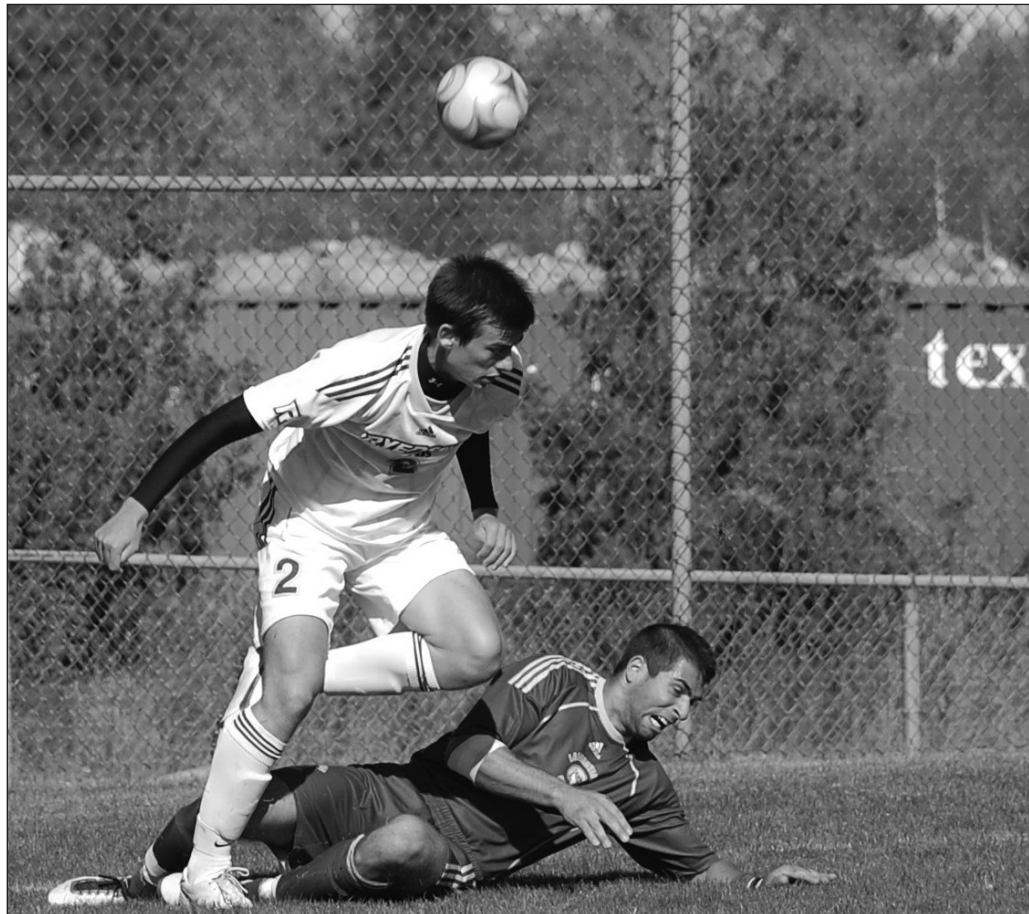


Photo by Ron Guillet

Andrew Posteraro slide tackles a Ryerson striker on Oct.2.

final season at Laurentian.

"This season was great," Bond said. "The guys battled and fought through everything that was thrown their way. We finished with

a two point increase on last year, and this is what teams are supposed to do, grow and become more of a threat to the rest of the league."

Bond thought the Voyageurs lacked focus at times, but that they battled adversity in crucial points of the season.

"I think that one thing our team, and most teams, have trouble with is the level of focus," Bond said. "This is always tough with university ball because of all the other distractions, like classes and due dates. Having said that I think that when we needed to put our head down and do work, we did."

Although Bond didn't achieve the offensive output he had hoped for, he said he developed both on and off the field.

"I only scored once this year and that was a lower than I had aimed for but I think my performance was good," Bond said. "I was heated at times, but strong. I was able to give back to some rookies and second year guys and learned more about the game and myself in the process, I wouldn't change a thing."

Bond, who will graduate with a Communications degree after this year, said it is difficult leaving the Voyageurs because he's developed many relationships and bleeds the game.

"Having to leave is hard for me because I'm walking away from competitive football all together," Bond said. "I'm not only leaving behind a team, but a great bunch of guys, some of which have become my very best friends."

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Injuries take a toll on Vees' season

BY RON GUILLET

The Laurentian Lady Vees' soccer team was eliminated in the first game of the playoffs, but had a strong regular season with a 7-5-4 record despite a slew of injuries throughout.

The Lady Vees finished fifth in the East division and were led by captain Lisa Watson, who finished with six goals in 16 games. The Vees, unlike the Voyageurs, started the season strong with a 3-0-1 record, but went 4-5-3 afterwards as the injuries mounted.

Vees head coach Rob Gallo said the team's strongest asset was defense, as displayed by its 15 goals against in 16 games which ranked fourth in the East division. But its offense, which scored a total of 21

goals for fourth last in the East, is not enough, said Gallo.

"The hallmark of our team and program is defence," Gallo said. "We are in a very tough division and we played some quality teams. However, we scored too few goals and we missed that in the four games we tied and some of the losses. We had a lot of the possession in some of those games where we created a lot of scoring chances, but unfortunately not scoring and letting the opposition score on one of their rare opportunities hurt us."

Gallo said the team has lacked a player capable of scoring more than six goals for over 12 years despite the team's searches. He

acknowledged that the Vees have plenty of hard workers, and they play their role, but acquiring an offensive player would take them to the next level.

"We have a lot of hard workers on our team," Gallo said. "We have to work hard to achieve success in every game; there is not one standout on this team. They are a collection of very dedicated young women who wear the blue and gold with a lot of pride. I am proud of the effort they gave us this season."

Gallo thought injuries played a part in the Vees' consistency issues, but the team's defensive game shone every game.

"We suffered some injuries to

key players," Gallo said. "Our lack of depth off of the bench was exposed. But our back four of Ashley Melnek, Leah Marie Ramalho, Amy Lynn Pitton and Samantha Innocente were as good as the top teams back four defenders."

Gallo was disappointed in the Vees' playoff performance but thought it was an uphill battle with the adversity from injuries and losing out on a home-field playoff game due to a tie in the final game of the regular season.

The playoffs were a bit of a letdown this year," Gallo said. "We played our hearts out versus Queens in getting the 2-2 result. Unfortunately, we needed a win to

get home field and we knew that with our long season and travel we needed to get the first round home field game. So going into the playoffs coming off a seven-hour ride to Kingston and getting on a six-hour ride to Ottawa less than 48 hours later with key injuries was going to make the playoffs tough."

Gallo added that the Vees will retain its courageous persona going into next season.

"We had a team of very courageous young women," Gallo said. "Even through injuries girls would step up and play out of their regular position to help the team. This courage defined our team this year and will for next year as well."

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Vees basketball split weekend home games

Lady Vees earn first win of the season in hard-fought battle

BY RON GUILLET

The Laurentian Lady Vees' basketball team is off to a slow start to the season, but picked up its first win in its weekend home stand and displayed positives to build from moving forward.

The Lady Vees played against the Brock Badgers on Friday, Nov. 18, at the Ben Avery Gymnasium. The Lady Vees came out strong but struggled with its shooting accuracy and the Badgers aggressive play had Laurentian on its heels. The first quarter ended 25-16 Badgers. The Lady Vees struggled with turnovers in the second quarter and allowed the Badgers to extend its lead by 14 with a 42-28 lead at half. Vees Erin Simpson displayed her

talent as she found scoring lanes frequently throughout the game, producing 12 points in the loss. Vees Devenae Bryce was also solid throughout the game, displaying an aggressive style and a strong work ethic to never let up. Laurentian lost the game 77-46 but had some positives to build from, according to Vees head coach Mike Clarke.

"It's the way we've been playing this year, we did a lot of good stuff but we made too many mental mistakes and that created way too many turnovers for us," Clarke said. "Every time we started to get some positive momentum we let them get on a bit of run just through our errors. We're a young team but we have to get tougher mentally and take care of business."

The Lady Vees took on the McMaster Marauders on Saturday, Nov. 19, and picked up its first win of the season. Laurentian started the game with an 8-2 run and contained the Marauders' offense with sound defensive positioning. McMaster was able to comeback in the first half but the game remained defensive as the score was 25-25 heading into the third quarter. A technical foul from McMaster shifted the momentum to Laurentian once again, however, as they capitalized on its opportunities and ended the quarter with an eight-point lead. The Lady Vees displayed its defensive prowess in the fourth quarter once again, limiting the Marauders to eight points, while Laurentian scored 11 for a final score of 55-44.

Clarke said the game plan before the game was to play defensive, and it paid dividends.

"I am really happy for the girls," Clarke said. "A lot of the hard work and effort in practice has paid off. I knew that we had to play hard defensively against this team and to do well we had to rebound as well as we did."

The Lady Vees next home games will be Friday, Dec. 2, and Saturday, Dec. 3.

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Rabey's soccer round-up: QPR the real deal

BY MATT RABEY

The Euro qualifiers have concluded, exciting international friendly matches have been played and the English Premier League's season is becoming one of the most exciting in recent years with new leaders Manchester City five points clear of closest rivals Manchester United. The latest countries to have qualified for the 2012 Euro Cup next summer are: Ireland, Croatia, Portugal and the Czech Republic.

The most historic of qualifications ended in euphoria for The Republic of Ireland, as it was the first time they have ever qualified for the Euro Cup on home soil. Although nothing should be taken away from the

draw that ensured qualification in Dublin on Nov. 15, the contest was already decided from a four nil thrashing of Estonia on their home turf a few days prior. The match would have brought smiles to any Irish supporter as their dominating display saw the star leading goal scorer Robbie Keane bag a brace and two unfortunate red cards for the outclassed Estonians.

In other parts of Europe other exiting contests were decided with the Three Lions refusing to be tamed by current World and European Cup champions Spain. Despite the Spanish having the Lion's share of position, England's defense showed that they may have what it takes to mount a reasonable run towards European glory next

June. Wave after wave of Spanish attack was broken by the likes of defenders such as Joleon Lescot and Phil Jagielka. England then went on to prove to the world that this was just a fluke when they claimed a one nil victory over a formidable Swedish team with Zlatan Ibrahimovi in the ranks. Once again the English back line held, but the main talking point to emerge out of these victories is that they were both one nil results. Does England have what it takes to score goals, especially when they are facing opposition that is playing for a prize and not merely a friendly? Only next summer will provide the answer to these questions, but England supporters can take comfort from the fact that

they have beaten the best.

In the domestic league the season continues with the boys in light blue staking their claim at the head of the pack with exciting victories, especially in the derby match against local rivals Manchester United. Described by Sir Alex Ferguson as the "worst result in my history" the six to one victory for City has proved that Mancini's men have what it takes to win the English title this year. During this match the brilliant Edin Džeko scored a brace after coming off of the substitutes bench and he continues to show his pedigree with every match. In fact he was the man to show a glimmer of hope for his home country during the defeat against

Portugal, with dominating plays in the midfield.

After their stomping of United, Manchester City faced the Queen's Park Rangers and barely scraped by with a three to two win. Džeko was once again in the spotlight and after being interviewed had this to say about the match: "It was very tough but at the end we can be happy," he said. "I must say, they are the best team we have played against this season and I want to pay compliments to Queens Park Rangers." QPR have had a highly erratic season so far, but the respects paid by this world-class goal scorer continue to reaffirm what I have said all along, QPR are going to be Premiership regulars.

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Lacrosse team take strides forward

BY RON GUILLET

The Laurentian Voyageurs' lacrosse team has been in the Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association since 2007 and, until this season, only had two wins.

The Voyageurs had a 3-7 record this season and earned its first playoff berth in the CUFLA. The team also scored 89 goals this season, which is 28 more than its previous high in 2010. While the Voyageurs allowed 120 goals against, it is the team's lowest in its four-year history. On the surface, these statistics aren't anything to write home about, but the team has had steady progression since its inception in 2007 and is beginning to make a name for itself.

Voyageurs assistant coach Chris Zapalski acknowledged the team's progression since

joining the CUFLA.

"Even though we were knocked out in our first game of playoffs, it is an accomplishment to say we were in playoffs," Zapalski said. "I took some time thinking about the team this past year compared to what it was in our first year and I can honestly say it is a difference of night and day. We took huge steps forward and are now competitive with top teams within CUFLA."

Zapalski said the Voyageurs displayed character this season and always had willingness to battle no matter the situation.

"The players were putting the team ahead of themselves," Zapalski said. "This action brought a dramatic shift in dynamics with not only team cohesiveness but also mutual respect for one another. We had a few

players not willing to make the commitment to the team that allowed any negative energy to leave with them. Players were not down and giving up this year regardless if we were down by a few goals, which showed the true character of the team and allowed us to gain the victories."

Zapalski noted that goalie David Rock, mid field Blaine Syme, and attacks Clint Lamarsh, who finished second overall in CUFLA scoring, and Mike Holder all played crucial roles in Laurentian's breakthrough season. He added that two of the team's rookies, Paul Jelley and Rob Pollack, had important roles this season as well.

Zapalski said the team must build from this season and take the next step as they try to earn its way into the Ontario University

Athletics.

"We must build from this year's success and keep moving forward," Zapalski said. "With the graduation of some key players, holes will need to be filled; however the remaining team is ready to step up into the leadership roles."

Zapalski's favorite moment of this season was against McMaster when the Voyageurs displayed its perseverance in full force.

"Sean Allen laid out one of their middies with a hit creating the 'TSN turning point' and shifting momentum to us," Zapalski recalled. "We went into the second half down by a few, but came back with an amazing winning goal by Doug Bennett with only 2 seconds left on the clock."

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Column: CIS needs more funding

BY ANDY VEILLEUX

Canadian varsity athletics face a number of issues that are not witnessed in professional sports, or at the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) level.

This statement alone seems obvious, and ignorant however, it is worth looking at the comment with an eye for detail.

While the calibre of play is lower in CIS (Canadian Interuniversity Sport) due to factors such as a lack of scholarships, and in funding for athletics in general, there are other note-worthy differences.

Building a team in the CIS is difficult. The big kicker for team building is that only get a player for a maximum of five years, if they choose to stick with the program that long. Of course, the NCAA is identical in terms of years of eligibility, but the major difference here is incentives.

While the NCAA is known to offer students full scholarships, or a "free ride" as it is often called, the most CIS university are allowed to offer is tuition.

Now, on the surface offering tuition doesn't seem like too bad of an offer. However, many universities do not offer tuition to their athletes,

because they simply do not have the resources to do so.

This is especially true of small to medium sized universities such as Laurentian University.

Obviously this presents a large problem for these universities. How do you entice a player, or in fact, recruit players at all, if you can not offer them monetary benefits?

Having a strong program with a strong reputation helps, but many small-to-medium sized universities do not have a strong reputation or strong program. So why don't they have strong programs?

Again, the problem comes down to funding. While the head coach may be a paid position (in sports like soccer that usually means a part-time head coach is paid, and his assistants make next-to-nothing), the rest of the program isn't usually well funded.

It is difficult to build a strong coaching staff, which requires a large time commitment, if you can not properly pay people.

Let's face it, nobody works for free, or at least not full-time hours as a volunteer.

So it has been established that CIS universities must actively recruit, as their players have a short shelf

life, and that the universities lack to budget to have a fully funded staff.

That being said, most coaches do not get a chance to venture away on scouting trips. Coaching soccer or volleyball, for example, is usually a part-time job, where the coaches have full-time jobs as well. It is not usually a career, but a passion for the coaches.

The case study of CIS university illustrates the bigger example of what is wrong with Canadian sports that do not rhyme with cocky; they are under-funded, and only a select few individuals are able to make a decent living coaching or managing them in this country. Players aren't usually paid particularly well even, and you just have to look at the Canadian Football League, United Soccer League, or Major League Soccer players for examples.

If Canada ever wants to get serious about sports other than hockey, varsity athletics need to be better funded, as they are often a development ground for young players in Canada.

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Intramural women's basketball wrap up

BY JORDAN SAVAGE AND JAKE SANITA

The intramural women's basketball season has come to an end. The championship came right down to the last night of games, and after an exciting season, the final standings are now decided. Cindy Serresse and her team "Supreme Dream Team" played tough all season and won their last game, securing third place. The team from U of S, captained by Annie Bergeron had a great team effort all season, and earned the second place spot. After these hard fought three weeks, we would like to congratulate Amanda Thirkill, Paige Caissie, Jessica Baumhour, Ashley Ojalammi, Jessica Carmichael, Marie- Paul Musafiri, and their captain—and league MVP—Natasha Cyr for being the champions of Women's Intramural Basketball. By going 6-0 on the season, Cyr and her teammates proved that they were not only "The Most

Awesome Team", but also the most talented and hard-working. Natasha and her team won \$80 to East Side Mario's for themselves. Everybody who signed up was given coupons to Build-A-Bear, Dairy Queen, and received water bottles donated from Gonga's Grill (Regent Location).

We would like to thank all the women who participated this year. The sportsmanship and great attitudes that were portrayed this season were admirable, inspiring to watch, and was a key influence in why Laurentian University Women's Intramural Basketball was such a success in 2011. Both convenors appreciate all the dedication the athletes have made. Congratulations to all those who participated this year and we hope for all of you to make the same positive impact in this year's upcoming intramurals, and intramurals for the years to come.

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Book review: The Lives of Conn Smythe

BY RON GUILLET

The Toronto Maple Leafs franchise has been revered in the National Hockey League since its inception in 1917. The team that dons the blue and white and is named after a World War I fighting unit, the Maple Leaf Regiment, was built through the ages because of one particular Canadian icon that aided its development.

This icon, who was essential for the growth of the Leafs and the NHL, was Conn Smythe.

Kelly McParland, writer, editor and columnist at the National Post, has offered hockey fans a truly remarkable book on the man who essentially built the Leafs we know and love, or hate, today. *The Lives of Conn Smythe* effortlessly shifts through the many chapters in Smythe's life that forged the Leafs and helped expand the NHL, as well as depict the life of a man who fought in two World Wars, which both left him wounded.

To say Smythe had an impact on Canadian culture is an understatement. But most Canadians do not necessarily know his story. This book enlightens us on his story and signifies his importance to the Leafs franchise, among other things.

When Smythe purchased the Toronto St. Patricks hockey team and renamed it to the Maple Leafs, while also changing the team's green and white colors, it signified a drastic change for the Toronto franchise. What came next was nothing short of a miracle. With the team's popularity increasing, Smythe decided it was time to build a new arena to house its new fans. Maple Leaf Gardens was then built in the summer of 1931 despite the difficulties of finding funding in the midst of the Great Depression. This also marked the beginning of Foster Hewitt's career, who was renowned for his Hockey Night in Canada radio broadcasts.

These are just some of the tidbits, among many that McParland managed to contain in 336 pages that make the book such a treat for any hockey fan, but especially Leafs fans.

Upon reading Smythe's courage in joining two World Wars, I found this particular excerpt interesting (from Ralph Allen of the Globe

and Mail who signed on to follow Smythe for the paper at the time):

"At battery headquarters a German plane dropped a flare on an ammunition truck and through its light two other plans paraded back and forth strafing. The burning tarpaulin of an ammunition truck threatened at any moment to blow up the piled boxes of ammunition and battery headquarters and the whole area with it. The major did exactly what anyone who knows him would have predicted he would do. He was out of his trench and into the middle of it at once, tugging at the flaming tarpaulin of the truck, directing the dispersal of headquarters transport over his shoulder. The other headquarters people were in it too, doing what they could in the red confusion and a few yards away the crew of one of the major's guns was blown right off the gun by a bomb and scrambled right back on and resumed firing. When the ammunition truck went up the major caught a piece of shrapnel in the back. When they found him his body was partly paralyzed, but the major's spirit will never be paralyzed by a truckload of ammunition and a few bombs and machine gun bullets. 'I'm all right,' he shouted as he lay helpless on the ground, and they came to carry him to shelter. 'Get those fires out.'"

It is, in a sense, a quotation that best describes Smythe. As the book describes, the army embodied everything Smythe valued in life and hockey: teamwork, discipline, loyalty, and clear lines of authority.

I could go on forever trying to explain why you should pick up this book. There's much more information to be absorbed and it would be a shame, especially for a Leafs fan, not to give it a read. What I chose to share is nothing but a sample of what makes this piece of work so special and great tribute to one of Canada's biggest icons. So without giving too much away, don't worry about the \$32.99 price tag, it's well worth it.

The following is an interview I conducted with McParland, which will reveal even more facts on Smythe that should interest hockey fans:

How did this project materialize? What made you decide to write a biography on Smythe?

I happened to come across an autobiography he wrote with Scott Young just before he died in 1980. His character came through clearly and it was filled with stories I'd never heard, but it was told entirely from his point of view. I wanted to read more, but discovered no one had ever written his biography, and most other books that referred to him just skimmed the surface. I found out that when he finally quit Maple Leaf Gardens for good in 1966 he took all his personal and business files with him, and they'd been donated to the Ontario Archives when he died. They were filled with information no one had ever seen, and Smythe's own views and opinions on the people and events of his life. So all the information was there, just waiting for someone to tell the story.

Through your research on Smythe did you learn anything new about him?

So much of it was new it would be hard to pick one. I hadn't realized he'd come up from an alcoholic mother and distant father, or the degree that his feeling of poverty motivated him. Or the extent that alcoholism intruded on his life: both his son Stafford and daughter Miriam died to some degree from hard drinking. I was also unaware of the tragic death of his fourth child, or his military record and how much he modeled the Leafs on the military and the type of discipline and teamwork it teaches. I also found his relationship with Frank Selke very intriguing and interesting: Selke proved to be as successful with the Canadiens as Smythe was with the Leafs, but Smythe could never think of him as anything but a second fiddle and simply couldn't connect with someone who didn't share his combative approach to the world.

Can you describe the process of writing this book?

It was more library and archive work. Most of the people who knew Smythe are dead, and those players who did play for him in the 50s were generally so in awe of him (and he was such a distant

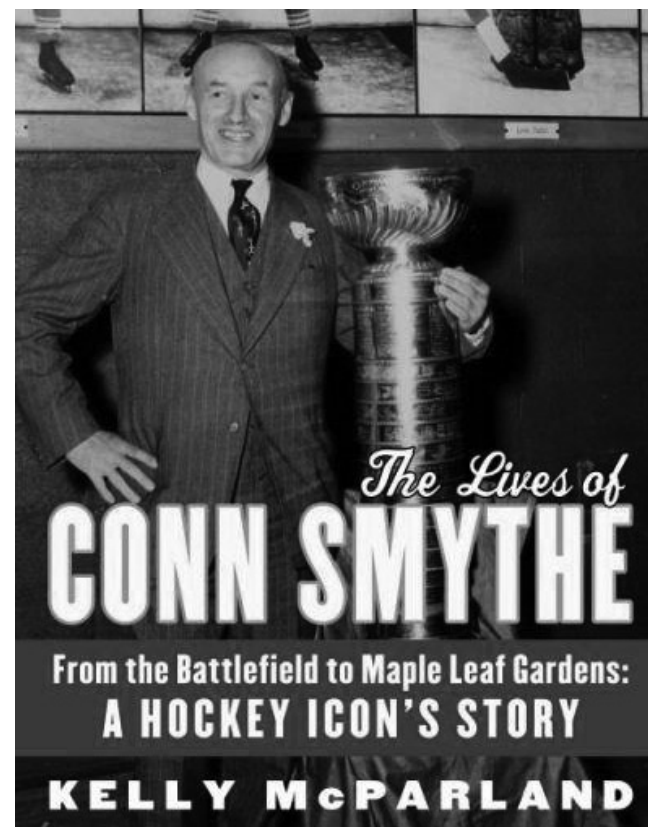


figure by then) that they only have limited accounts to offer. The real meat came from Smythe's own files, and newspaper accounts from the day, when reporters were far less isolated from the players and the social distance wasn't what it was today. Fortunately, both Frank Selke Jr. and Hugh Smythe, Smythe's youngest son, are still with us and were generous with their time. That was very helpful in getting a sense of the man and the times.

Was there a time in Smythe's life that you found particularly intriguing?

I think it would be the years in the thirties and forties, when he was building the team and the Gardens, and then going off to war. It was the period of the Leafs greatest years, and some of the most colourful characters. Smythe was not only a great character himself but knew plenty of other people and personalities with great stories of their own: Charlie Conacher, who came from a family of 10 kids and whose father cut up ice blocks for a living; Foster Hewitt, who was a far more complex character than the bland exterior suggested; King Clancy, who seems not to have made an enemy in his life; George McCullagh, the owner of the Globe & Mail at the time, and

W.A. Hewitt, Foster's, who was as friendly and outgoing as Foster was quiet and withdrawn, but who knew everyone in town and had great stories from the earliest years of the city and the game of hockey. Originally I'd written much more about those people, but unfortunately I had to trim a lot for reasons of length.

What was the goal in writing this book?

My aim with the book was to try and reacquaint Leaf fans with the great years of the team before Harold Ballard came along and did so much damage. Even older Leaf fans can't remember much that happened before the Sixties, but the three decades up to 1960 were among the greatest and most colourful in the team's history. It was an entirely different world and a different game, and attitudes and the people involved were nothing like they are today. It's really a rich period that has been largely forgotten and shouldn't be, because so much of what the game is today derives from what was put in place by a small handful of men back then.

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Letter to the editor: Occupy T.O. is bigger than a bus

"As we gather together in solidarity to express a feeling of mass injustice, we must not lose sight of what brought us together. We write so that all the people who feel wronged by the corporate forces of the world can know that we are your allies."

Occupy Wall Street Mission Statement

We, the Laurentian Students for Occupying Toronto, stand in solidarity with the Global Occupation Movement. The reality is that our fundamental message continues to be overlooked and misrepresented. Although we all come from different experiences, we have united to demand that human rights be protected, that people come before profit and that we can all live free of oppression, insurmountable debt, unsustainability and war. It has become obvious to us that these aspirations are not possible when corporations, which place economic interest over equality, are in power.

Granted, the occupations are not exclusively focused on student issues, however they are undoubtedly related. As the Occupy Wall Street mission statement claims, we, the students, 'have been held hostage with tens of thousands of dollars of debt on education, which is itself, a human right'. Examples of this are be seen in the cut backs, layoffs and other austerity measures running rampant throughout our university. In fact, what is happening at Laurentian, and many other schools across the country, is a reflection of what is currently happening in our world. If we want tuition fees to be reduced, a better quality education and more student services we cannot expect change to happen on its own, we need to actively create it, instead of continuing to perpetuate the practices of a broken system.

As these issues and the current climate of austerity are affecting students at Laurentian, a motion was put forward during the SGA board meeting on October 12th by the group Laurentian

Students for Occupying Toronto. This group requested assistance for transportation to and from the occupation at a cost of \$2000. This motion was voted on and passed by the board as a \$2000 loan, not as a donation, and required the submission of a letter of intent to repay the board, a detailed payback plan and signed waivers from all those participating. This agreement was passed during the board meeting, although not without debate, until an injunction was filed challenging the constitutionality of the original motion.

The application procedure for the funding was believed to be unconstitutional by Marc Mancini, a senator and member of the SGA board, which prompted him to take action after the meeting. It is easy to see the hypocrisy in the proceedings that Mr. Senator Mancini undertook to challenge the motion. Claiming that the attempts of the group were unconstitutional, Mancini would choose to use less than transparent means that undermined the ideals of student government and put the concept of student sovereignty in danger. Ultimately, his actions resulted in a student assuming the costs of transportation. That his voice was given such prominence in the LAMBDA article is inherently problematic.

The nature and content of the LAMBDA article, in regards to presentation, factual basis, and journalistic integrity is indicative of the extent to which the publication, and author of the article, went to present "the truth." They did so to the extent and degree a tabloid publication would. Moreover, the journalist assigned to cover the occupation story was quick to take advantage of a ride to Toronto, but disappeared the moment we arrived. The journalist of the article, Kallie Berens, asserts that she had attended Occupy Toronto and yet, no information is included; why then, is it that she attended the occupation, yet conducted no interviews with the participants of the occupation?


Further to the point, the editor of LAMBDA, Ed Veilleux, must assume responsibility for the journalistic conduct of Kallie Berens while covering the Occupy Toronto event. That she did not identify herself as a representative of LAMBDA and her out of context use of off-the-record comments is a prime example of poor ethics, she had ample opportunity to speak to her fellow passengers on the bus to Toronto. Ed Veilleux's addition of an editor's note attacking individuals for not completing interviews is very problematic. In no other newspaper, student or professional, would this be acceptable: there was the option to mention in the article that these individuals were unavailable for comment. That Ed Veilleux and Kallie Berens decided to pursue this course speaks

volumes on their interpretation and biases regarding this student group and the movement at large. It also reflects poorly on the LAMBDA, which ought to be a voice for students. As the SGA states, is not the purpose of LAMBDA to 'provide a valuable student perspective while offering students a chance to have their say in print?'

We struggled with what exactly to write in our response to LAMBDA and the general student body. Did we want to focus on refuting the misinformed content of the article or did we want to focus of the message of the movement itself? In other words, did want to compromise our integrity by giving LAMBDA the time of day? Yet as the Statements of Student Rights and Responsibilities states "students

have a right to express their views and to press for improvements to the policies and regulations which affect them". We also "have the responsibility to ensure that the information they provide to the University's official use is true and correct."

It is less the question of criticisms that exist around the Occupy movement; indeed there are many valid concerns and criticisms to be made. However, these are very rarely tempered with constructive suggestions – problems beg solutions, and that those who are troubled by the Occupy movement are not offering solutions is an issue that does confront the movement. Whether or not its detractors agree, they are indeed part of the 99%.



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Hedda Gabler begins

BY NINA NESSETH

Thorneloe University takes on Henrik Ibsen's classic masterpiece Hedda Gabler as its fall mainstage production, set to open on Nov. 17th. Set in the late 1800s, Hedda Gabler follows the final day-and-a-half of the play's heroine, who for all of her complexity has been critically described as "the Female Hamlet". The show is known for its social controversy and is said to have forever changed the role of women in theatre.

Fijona Brinkman plays the eponymous Hedda Gabler. "She's a woman who is completely bored with life and with the company of women," said Brinkman. "It has been hinted that she would like to be a man, which would make her life more interesting. Really all she wants is to be admired." Paul McGilvery plays George Tesman, Hedda's husband, and Jake McNeil is the alcoholic academic Eilert Lovborg. Also featured in the production are Richard Barlow as Judge Arvid Brack, Rose-Erin Stokes as Thea Elvsted, Emilie Lalonde as Aunt Juliana Tesman, and Jennifer Fraser as Bethe.

The production boasts an elaborate set designed by Robert Ivey and built by Cambrian College students; lighting was designed by Ken Salah, and costumes were designed by Evelyn Davie.

Director Patricia Tedford chose an adaptation of the play by Canadian playwright Judith



Photo supplied

The cast of Hedda Gabler runs through a scene at Thorneloe University.

Thompson. "Her reworking of the play stays true to the original intent of the play, but makes it more current and accessible today," Tedford said in a media release. "It's important for us to

support our own artists." She also noted that all of Thorneloe's productions this year have a distinct Canadian connection.

Hedda Gabler will run from Nov. 17th to 19th and 24th to

26th at the Ernie Checkers Theatre at Thorneloe University on the Laurentian University campus. Curtain time is 8 p.m. each evening, with the exception of a matinee at 2 p.m. on Nov.

26th. Tickets are \$10 for students and seniors, and \$15 for general admission. For more information, visit thorneloe.ca/theatre. nx_nesseth@laurentian.ca

ElleQ hosts 'Imagination Project'

BY NINA NESSETH

The elleQ Dance Factory recently invited its audiences to open their minds and join its dancers as they told stories through movement in "The Imagination Project", the company's most recent full-length production that was presented at Le Theatre de Nouvel-Ontario from Nov. 17th – 19th.

"The Imagination Project" is very personal to Sudbury dance artist Lauren Pero, the show's choreographer. It has taken nearly two years to build from dreams and images into full stories told through movement.

"I collected images, stories, and dreams that have stuck in my head for quite some time," she explained. "I decided to take this collection of things that have inspired me and make them into a contemporary dance."

Pero founded the elleQ Dance Factory with her sister Meghan Corcoran in 2008. The company has been dedicated to creating artistic and entertaining work that "[keeps] storytelling through movement at the forefront."

Part of the goal for this particular project was to keep it as local as possible. All of

the performers, including herself, are based in Sudbury and the music was composed exclusively for the project by Sudbury musician Matt Foy. Everything from costume design to lighting was created by local talent. The project was supported by the Ontario Arts Council.

Non-dancers were invited to be performers alongside experienced dancers. The non-dancers had varied experiences in clowning and theatre, and brought a new dynamic and physicality to the performances. Among its performers are some faces that may be familiar to Laurentian students:

Denise Vitali and Jenny Hazelton both teach at Thorneloe University.

Pero also described how audiences tend to have a set idea of what contemporary or modern dance should be, but that its definition is not always clear.

"It's kind of bizarre, it's kind of beautiful, it's funny, it's haunting," said Pero. "My goal is to inspire people to use their imaginations to make their own stories about what they see."

For more information about elleQ Dance Factory and upcoming projects, visit www.elleQdancefactory.com. nx_nesseth@laurentian.ca